



image 1031
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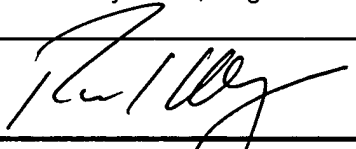
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	<i>Application No.</i>	09/973,862
	<i>Filing Date</i>	October 11, 2001
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Kelly G. AMMANN et al.
	<i>Group Art Unit</i>	1631
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	Unknown
	<i>Attorney Docket No.</i>	2599-104-D4
	<i>Customer No.</i>	6449
	<i>Confirmation No.</i>	8811
<i>Title of the Invention:</i> AUTOMATED DIAGNOSTIC ANALYZER AND METHOD		

STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully inquires as to when an Office Action for the above-captioned application can be expected. A request was filed on February 14, 2003, but we have not received a reply.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
NAME AND REG. NUMBER	Richard Wydeven, Registration No. 39,881				
SIGNATURE			DATE	October 17, 2003	
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Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	202-783-6040	Fax	202-783-6031